

OLD COMMONWEALTH.

J. K. SMITH and P. B. DELANY, Editors.

HARRISONBURG, VA.

THURSDAY MORNING, DEC. 6, 1878.

NEWS SUMMARY.

FOREIGN.
The condition of the English iron and coal trades is growing worse.

The English hop growers are agitating for a protective tariff.

The Anglo-African correspondence and the Russian complications are leading topics of the London press.

Forty conspicuous socialists have been expelled from Berlin.

The Porte has suppressed the Turkish legation at Washington.

The Afghan highlanders have cut the communications of the British troops under General Brown.

Mr. Gladstone has made a pointed speech against personal government and the Afghan war.

The Afghans in the Khyber Pass have been dislodged. At Peshawar the British have been repulsed.

The Amer has made a speech to his chief in praise of the Russians and the British.

Socialistic foreigners are to be expelled from Spain.

Germany is ransomed with Maximilian associations.

The Duke of Cumberland and Prince Thyrer, of Denmark, will be married in about three weeks.

It is a Russian, not a British, council of State is discussing the question of a tax on American cotton imports.

There are now fifteen thousand cotton operatives idle in the Oldham (Eng.) district.

White Hungarian Premier Tisa was speaking in Pesth, Saturday night, a bomb was exploded on the staircase of the hall.

A Franco-American commercial meeting was held in the circus of the Champs Elysees, Paris, on Sunday.

Turkey has another small loan of \$100,000,000.

Advices from Afghanistan indicate little trouble at the Khyber and Peshawar Passes; and not much fighting this winter.

Suleiman Pasha has been degraded and imprisoned for his conduct in the late Turkish war.

The Austrian budget committee perished in opposing the demands of the government in regard to the expenses of Bosnian occupation.

DOMESTIC.
Gen. Robert C. Buchanan, U. S. Army, died in Washington, D. C., on Friday last. He was in the 67th year of his age.

Governor McCrory, of Kentucky, has caused to be delivered to the Breckinridge Memorial Association, at Lexington, Ky., \$10,000 appropriated by the Legislature for a monument to the memory of John C. Breckinridge.

Least Gen. Sheridan will soon leave Chicago for New York to attend to the suit entered against him to recover over four hundred thousand dollars damages for his seizure of a sugar plantation in Louisiana under the reconstruction acts.

The steamer Charles Morgan, from Cincinnati, and Cotton Valley, of the Red River line, collided in the Mississippi river, opposite Donaldsonville, La., at 4 A. M. yesterday. The latter vessel was sunk and thirty lives were lost.

During the funeral services of Hon. M. S. Henry, in the Episcopal Church, at Sterling, Ill., the floor of the vestibule gave way, precipitating the crowd into the cellar, and Edward Pierce was badly injured. Great excitement prevailed for a few moments, but the crowd was soon quieted by the self-possession of the pastor.

The United States District Court at St. Louis has rendered judgment against George Althea for failure to account for about \$14,000 placed in his hands as an army officer for distribution among the Indians in Minnesota, in September, 1876.

A mass meeting will be held in New Orleans to give public expression of thanks and gratitude for the generous relief afforded during this epidemic from all parts of the country and abroad.

A New Castle (Del.) dispatch states that Mr. Dodson, of Kent county, Md., arrested for prompting the shooting of the colored man Jones, was released on Saturday, having put up \$1,000 to indemnify her bail.

Four steamships left New York for Europe Saturday, the City of Berlin, England, Donau and Ethiopia. They carried full cargoes of grain, meats and manufactured articles.

Whitfo frost occurred at New Orleans Thursday, Friday and Saturday. No deaths have occurred from yellow fever since Tuesday.

During the prevalence of yellow fever in Memphis 64,000 patients were treated in 68,022 persons.

Hon. Bartholomew F. Moore, one of the leading lawyers of North Carolina, died at Raleigh on Friday last, in the 78th year of his age.

The North Carolina case canvassing board has declared J. J. Martin, republican, elected in the second congressional district.

Col. Thomas A. Scott, president of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, writes a private letter by the mail which arrived at Philadelphia Saturday last, put on board the Switzerland in the English channel, in which he says, speaking of his health: "I am not only greatly better already, but my general health is wonderfully improved." His correspondent speaks of Col. Scott's letter being bright and cheery.

Robert Heller, the great magician, is dead.

No damage was done by the heavy rain in James River last week. The canal it is said will be open to Lexington this week, and trade resumed.

Regulations are now in progress for the establishment of a new railroad from Richmond to Buchanan, on the line of the James River and Kanawha canal, with good prospects of success.

The Governor-General of Canada and the Princess Louise took their departure from Halifax, Nov. 26th. They were attended by a guard of honor, and the starting of the train was witnessed by an immense crowd of spectators, who were enthusiastic in their cheering.

EDITORIAL CORRESPONDENCE.

DEATH'S HARVEST.—TWO MORE NOTED REFORMERS FROM THE STAGES OF LIFE-GRAVE WATCHING A NEW AND NECESSARY OCCUPATION—MEDICAL COLLEGES AND MEDICAL DOCTORS—OLIVARY THE PEDESTRIAN—THE POTOMAC AND OHIO R.—BRIEF SHUTTLE TO EUROPE—CHARITY, VICE AND CORRUPTION IN A LARGE CITY

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 3, 1878.

"We are all dying," said an eminent divine last Sunday. No sooner do we begin to live than we commence to die. We are all dying, and since that time some of the national note have died in this community.

Robert Heller, whose real name was William Henry Palmer, the renowned magician and musician, died suddenly at the Continental Hotel on Wednesday evening last. He performed at Concert Hall on an immense assemblage on Monday evening; was taken ill during the entertainment, but finished his part, playing for the audience as a reward for their patience during the interruption.

"The Last Rose of Summer" with variations, the pathetic and inexpressible feeling of which Heller never before so well brought out. As the curtain fell, and while the last sad notes were still lingering, the natural musician said to his assistants, "I have played it for the last time." He went to the hotel, a physician was called, and at midnight on Wednesday he breathed his last.

The papers are full of reminiscences of this remarkable man's career.

On Friday night last Louis A. Godey, the founder and for upwards of forty years the publisher of Godey's Lady's Book, quietly laid down a paper which he had been reading, laid his head back instantaneously became the late Louis Godey. He withdrew from the famous "Lady's Book" last year, amply remunerated for a long life of lovely labor, moulding the figures and shaping divinely the rough hewn ends of sweet femininity.

The grave of the late ten-millionaire Powers is to be guarded night and day for two years, so that his mortal remains may have quiet repose for a time at least. The question of grave burglary is becoming daily more engrossing on public attention.

The time is close at hand when sepulchral watchers will tread the narrow avenues of our dead cities, for the protection of the last estates of "those who have gone before" and those who are daily going. Like private watchmen in the city, each sentinel will have certain prescribed limits to patrol, and the rich relics, etc., of those who lie buried will each contribute their proportion of the expense. Those who can't afford to pay must remain in very doubtful uncertainty regarding the whereabouts of the bodies which may lie a mouldering and may not. It is reasonable to suppose that when the body snatching kleptomaniac comes along and asks the watchman of the night, "Is this a paying subscriber?" and is informed that he or she is three weeks in arrears, the "kelp" will begin operations at once.

If this new Ohio "dee" is not suppressed, our greatest solatide in life will be to provide against robbery in death. It is estimated that not less than a dozen "stiffs" or subjects for anatomical demonstration in the colleges of this city are provided nightly.

Most of them are those whom death alone claimed from the prisons and poor-houses, and who would otherwise, and sometimes do for a few hours, rest a foot deep in the "Potter's field." It is to be hoped that the legislatures throughout the land will frame laws for the suppression of this horrible traffic. The colleges must have subjects to be sure, but the sacredness of the grave must not be sacrificed, more especially since the doctors learn but little anyhow, and the majority of them would make better martyrs to science than students, when after thousands of years of healing humbuggery and nostrum latin they acknowledge their inability to correct an inverted toe nail. We don't think the profession entitled to so much consideration, and that old Eccelesias himself was a weakling of high degree. As a proof of the soundness of these assertions, I heard O'Leary's agent yesterday that when the champion pedestrian was walking against all England's champions, and was suffering from blistered and calloused feet, one of the most eminent surgeons of London was called in to doctor the great tramp's peddle, but O'Leary objected to his treatment and to prove that he was wrong agreed to give one foot over to the doctor's care while he himself prescribed for the other. At the conclusion of the great match, during which O'Leary walked nearly six hundred miles and won, the foot in charge of the doctor was laid open from heel to toe, while O'Leary's own protégé was all right. O'Leary used sand-paper while the man of medicines resorted to salves. What we need most in our country is a good sand-paper doctor—one who can scratch for a living. This sand-paper suggestion is thrown out for the benefit of such candidates as contemplate walking for office all over the country next spring. The man who tries it on one foot will stand a fair show, while he who dresses up both will be elected beyond a doubt.

The Construction Company who have the contract for 200 miles of the Potomac and Ohio railroad, are about to open an office in this city which will be headquarters. This Company receives the county appropriations, donations of lands along the line of road, and the first mortgage bonds of the railroad company for the construction. Topographical, geographical and mineralogical surveys of the entire route will be made and specimens of all minerals, woods, etc., collected here for cabinet exhibition. Negotiations for letting of the work from Harrisonburg East are now progressing favorably, the particulars and result of which I hope to be able to announce next week. President Bost, of the W. C., & St. Louis Narrow Gauge R. R. is in the city last week, and feels confident, we are informed, of being able to put his road in operation from Washington to Falls Church in a month or two, and, as usual, is very hopeful about the balance of the road.

While the general impression prevails that neither the Texas Pacific (Scott), or the Southern Pacific (Huntington), can do anything in the subsidy line in Washington this winter, we incline to the belief that such a thing will be easier accomplishment at this season than it will be next. The outgoing members, never expecting to return, and not caring over much for record, will be willing to vote for one measure or the other. If there are to be any subsidies this side of 1880 they must come this winter. Scott's absence and ill-health gives his great com-petitor considerable advantage, unless it is found that other heads conduct the battles as well as the old commander in chief, who by the way, writes back that he is greatly improved in mind and body.

In a few weeks a new line of thirteen steamships, fitted up expressly for the ship-

ment to Liverpool of American beef, will go into operation at this port. The growth of this branch of commerce promises most extensive shipments permanently hereafter, and this fact bodes good fortune for our stock raising interests. Let us hope at the same time that it will not raise the price at home, and that occasionally a really good beef may break its leg in our section, so that we can get a slice and appreciate what the Europeans feast on. Texas beef, slaughtered at St. Louis and shipped in refrigerators, is coming into favor in this market, on account not only of its excellent quality but comparatively low price—there being a difference of several cents on the pound. Meats and provisions of all kinds have been lower in the cities this year than since '61. Everything is low in price and wages are depressed correspondingly.

Thus far there has been no severe weather, so that the poor have escaped the rigors of winter to which their helplessness exposes them. An effort is being made in various wards of this city to systematize Charity and prevent promiscuous begging, but whether it will operate, so as to give the greatest relief to the most needy and deserving, is a question and always has been. I saw a few days since a hundred or more tramps, bummers, vagrants, and other inhabitants of the slums, on their way to the wharf to embark for the House of Correction, seven or eight miles up the Delaware. It was a motly crowd—each under escort of a policeman, and I learned that it was the third installment of the product of a grand raid, and that another was still to follow. Men and women, black and white, some barefooted, others half-shod and all generally regardless. Among them were policy players, dance-house habitués, and accomplished ex-providers in all branches of vice. They will probably be detained for the winter, and through few of them will think so, they will be benefited by the change physically and morally. Any change from bad to good, and streets must be benefited. Like Dante's entrance to Hades, they should display the sign, "All hope abandon ye who enter here."

As the time set for specie resumption approaches and the prospects of Congressional interference are daily growing fainter, the banks and the Government have come to a sort of general understanding as to what course to pursue. It is expected that Bland and trade dollars will be received by the banks as special deposits to be paid back in kind on demand. Notes below the denomination of \$5 will probably be withdrawn, while 25 and 50 cent silver coin and gold will be used for resumption purposes. The whole arrangement is viewed in the light of an experiment, which if successful at the start will remain a success, as no one will want coin when they know they can get it; notes will be preferred. On the other hand, should the demand for coin corner the Government the repeal of resumption will doubtless follow, and all financial theories will again be chaotic and the green-back "dee" may wriggle itself into imbecile animation once more for a brief period. My impression is that so long as all is peaceful and serene resumption will continue to resume, but as soon as any agitation arises calculated to weaken confidence in the cohesive stability of the Government, there will be a run on the treasury for coin which cannot be met. Nothing short of a Government Greenback redeemable in gold and receivable for all dues will overcome this liability to disturbance of the equilibrium, sought to be established between soft currency and metals. Let us hope that no cause of commotion will ever arise, but in these times you can't always sometimes tell.

Yours, D.

In our last issue we printed the plan as prepared by Gen. James H. Williams, of Winchester, for a settlement of the State debt question. To-day we publish the proposition of Mr. R. T. Hubbard, of Farnville, on the same subject. We trust that both may have a careful perusal by our readers.

Never before have we felt so confident of a speedy settlement of the vexed and vexing question as now. If the present session of the Legislature will lay aside passion and prejudice, and patriotically address itself to the work, we shall forever escape from the agitation of this question, which has been such a fruitful source of harm to all of us.

The debt can be settled upon a four per cent basis; that will be satisfactory to our creditors. The State can readily pay four per cent. interest, and that will be honorable to the State. The people are anxious for it, even at an increase of present taxation if necessary. The harm which has been done to the interest of individuals, as also the State at large, in dollars and cents amounts to more than sufficient to have paid the entire indebtedness.

This is a proposition so easily demonstrable that to argue it is unnecessary. Then let us have a definite proposition to the creditors—one which they can accept and which will be no dishonor for us to offer.

We also print to-day the address of a number of our most distinguished citizens, of which body Mr. Robert Beverly, one of our largest farmers, is chairman. This address clearly points out the necessity for a final settlement of the question.

The disastrous effects of the agitation which has prevailed for the last three or four years has created a necessity for a final settlement of the controversy which cannot be avoided. Our interests are suffering to such an extent because of it that a settlement must be speedily effected, or residence in the State for those who have to follow some business to live will be next to impossible. We shall pursue the subject further as opportunity presents itself.

The Baltimore Gazette is bright sprightly, dashing, Democratic from end to end. Always fresh, full of news, and its enterprise has made it a complete success.

Two Maine men—father and son—took lodging at a hotel in Massachusetts last Friday night. Before retiring they blew out the gas. The old man was stone dead next morning and the son unconscious, from the gas escaping into the room. Could not somebody persuade another Maine man to blow out the gas in his room and go to bed? It would be such an interesting item, you know, and then his obituary might read better now than after a while, when he has had a longer time in which to carry on devilment.

There seems to be a good deal of fear and trembling manifested by the Democratic press of the country about the session of Congress just commenced. They seem to be on the look out for blunders which will do harm in 1880. If a few members make asses of themselves let them alone. Their constituents will likely make it hot for them hereafter. This constant repetition of caution makes us feel like the party was on a grand chicken-stealing raid.

It is reported from Richmond that Gov. Holliday, in order to settle the question of legality in regard to the assembling of the Virginia Legislature, will call that body to meet in extra session on Wednesday. The Governor will not state positively his intention of so doing, but says he will decide the matter by Tuesday evening.—Balt. Sun of Monday.

That settles the question as to whether there will be a session of the Legislature or not.

Hon. Abram S. Hewitt is reported to have remarked at a meeting at Cooper Institute Saturday evening, amid great applause, that "We are on the dawn of an era of prosperity such as the world never saw."

Glad to hear it. But then we should like to know how Abram knows, you know.

Another republican official came to grief—not because he was a republican but because he was too weak to resist temptation—in Richmond on Sunday. A. W. Wilcox, mail messenger between the post office and the railroads at that city was arrested for robbing the mails.

The magnificent welcome received by the Marquis of Lorne and Princess Louise from the Canadians has called forth the following cablegram from Victoria to London:

WINDSOR CASTLE, Dec. 1.—Delighted at reception. Say so. THE QUEEN.

We do wish that Luray cave business could be settled. The Baltimore-Gazette says it was discovered fifty years ago, and the papers of the surrounding country say it is a new discovery.

The inquiry for farms in Virginia during the past month has been greater than any month during the past six years.—Washington Gazette, Nov. 30.

A small war is raging in Breathitt county, Kentucky. The Governor has no doubt interfered ere this and put a stop to it.

New Advertisements.

TO MY PATRONS:
WITH PLEASURE I ANNOUNCE THAT I have secured the services of J. S. HARRIS, an Assistant in my practice. He has had six years' experience in the Law Office, and I can guarantee all operations which he will perform for me. Thanking my friends for their liberal support in the past, I hope, by his aid, to be able to wait on all who call, and merit a continuance of their favors.
Very Truly,
FRANK L. HARRIS.
[26]
December 5, 1878.

Commissioner's Notice.
JOHN T. HARRIS
vs.
O. C. SHOENAKER.
In Chancery in the Circuit Court of Rockingham Co. NOTICE is hereby given to the parties to the above entitled Chancery cause, and to all others interested, that I have fixed on SATURDAY, THE 28TH DAY OF DECEMBER, at my office in Harrisonburg, Va., as the time and place at which I shall proceed to take the following accounts, required by the decree in said cause, to wit:
(1) An account of the real estate of the defendant, and all interest thereon, with its value.
(2) An account of all liens by judgment or otherwise upon said real estate and interest therein, with the priorities of said liens.
Given under my hand as Commissioner in Chancery of the Circuit Court of Rockingham Co., at the City of Harrisonburg, Va., this 4th day of December, 1878.
J. R. JONES,
Commissioner in Chancery.
O'Ferrall & Patterson, P. G.

AT THE
Central Clothing House,
HARRISONBURG, VA.
YOU WILL FIND THE LARGEST, BEST AND CHEAPEST STOCK OF
OVERCOATS, ULSTERS,
Dress Suits,
Business Suits,
Working Suits,
Hats, Hats,
Gents' Furnishing Goods,
Rubber Goods,
Buggy Robes, &c.,
ALL OF WHICH WILL BE SOLD FOR LESS MONEY THAN THEY CAN BE BOUGHT ELSEWHERE.
Call and be convinced that we mean what we say.
D.M. SWITZER & SON.
[26]

New Advertisements.

THE FACTORY BUILDING AND LOT AT THE DEPOT, In Harrisonburg, Va. FOR SALE.

I WILL OFFER THIS VALUABLE PROPERTY for sale at the front door of the Court-house, in Harrisonburg, at Public Auction, on SATURDAY, December 8th, 1878, upon the following terms, to wit: One-third or one-fourth cash in hand, and the balance in one and two years, with interest from the day of sale, the purchaser to give bonds with approved security, and the title to be retained as ultimate security.

Considering the size and substantial character of the building, the feasibility of supply of water for steam purposes, the location of the property at the Depot, by the side of the Railroad, this certainly is the most desirable property in the country for a Wash. and Potomac Flouring Mill, or even for a Corn and Flour Mill, or a Sawing Mill, or a Fertilizer Plant, or a Grain Elevator, or a Hand and Spoke Factory. And therefore, there is any industry and enterprise in this country, this property ought to be sold readily and at a good price, for its location must make it very valuable in a very few years.

G. W. BERLIN,
Attorney in fact for John T. Green.

Commissioner's Sale
PURSUANT TO A DECREE RENDERED AT THE May Term, 1878, in the Circuit Court of Rockingham County, in the cause of Harvey K. Ely vs. Nelson Sprinkle, &c., and Valley Lodge No. 40, I. O. O. F. vs. Charles Fields, &c., we will sell at public auction, ON SATURDAY, THE 30TH OF NOVEMBER, 1878, at the front door of the Court-house in Harrisonburg, Va.,

HOUSE AND LOT,
situated on the western side of German street, said town, adjoining the property of Emanuel Rorer and McCallis, dec'd, being all of the property sold by Nelson Sprinkle to Charles Fields.

TERMS.—One-fourth cash in hand, and the balance in three equal annual payments, with interest from the day of sale, (the property to be sold as a whole) the purchaser to give bonds with approved personal security, and the title to be retained as ultimate security.

JAMES KENNEY,
JOHN E. ROLLER,
Commissioners.

This sale has been postponed until SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14th, 1878.

JAMES KENNEY,
JOHN E. ROLLER,
Commissioners.

Commissioner's Sale
OF VALUABLE
REAL ESTATE.
PURSUANT TO A DECREE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT of Rockingham County, rendered on the 1st day of November, 1878, in the cause of Henry S. & Son vs. Edward S. Kemper, &c., I will sell at public auction, before the front door of the Court-house, in Harrisonburg, Va., the highest bidder, that VALUABLE FARM, the property of E. S. Kemper, lying on the Keokuktown Road some six or seven miles from Harrisonburg, in Rockingham county, containing 304 Acres, more or less. The improvements are in every respect first-class.

Also, another Tract of land in said county, some few miles from the above named tract, containing some 90 Acres.

TERMS.—One-third of the purchase money on the day of sale, and the balance in two equal annual payments, with interest from the day of sale, the purchaser to give bonds with approved personal security, and the title to be retained until all the purchase money shall be paid.

A. M. NEWELL,
Commissioner.

Commissioner's Sale
PURSUANT TO A DECREE RENDERED IN the Chancery cause of John G. Coates, for &c., vs. Susan Weaver, &c., at the January Term, 1878, I will sell at Public Auction, at the front door of the Court-house in Harrisonburg, on SATURDAY, December 28th, 1878, a Tract of 350 Acres of Land lying in Brock's Gap, Rockingham county, belonging to the estate of William H. Falm.

TERMS.—One-half cash in hand, and the balance in two equal annual payments, with interest from the day of sale, the purchaser to give bonds with approved security, and the title to be retained until all the purchase money shall be paid.

O. B. ROLLER,
Commissioner.

Commissioner's Sale
PURSUANT TO A DECREE RENDERED IN the Chancery cause of John G. Coates, for &c., vs. Susan Weaver, &c., at the January Term, 1878, I will sell at Public Auction, at the front door of the Court-house in Harrisonburg, on SATURDAY, December 28th, 1878, a Tract of 8 Acres of Woodland, lying near Linville, in Rockingham county.

TERMS.—One-fourth cash, and the remainder at six, twelve, and eighteen months from the day of sale, with interest from said day, the purchaser to give bonds for deferred payments, with approved security, and the title to be retained as ultimate security.

P. S. ROLLER,
Special Commissioner.

Commissioner's Sale
PURSUANT TO A DECREE RENDERED IN the Chancery cause of Valentine and Franklin, &c., vs. Isaac Paul and Son, &c., at the January Term, 1878, I will sell at Public Auction, at the front door of the Court-house in Harrisonburg, on SATURDAY, December 28th, 1878, the HOUSE AND LOT situated in the town of Harrisonburg, adjoining Capt. W. S. Lantry and others, now occupied by Col. Robert Johnson.

TERMS.—One-fifth cash in hand, and the remainder in four equal installments, at six, twelve, eighteen and twenty-four months from the day of sale, with interest from said day, the purchaser to give bonds with approved security, and the title to be retained as ultimate security.

JOHN E. ROLLER,
Special Commissioner.

Commissioner's Notice.
DANIEL KLINE
vs.
F. W. PUGH, &c.
In Chancery in the Circuit Court of Rockingham County. NOTICE is hereby given to the parties to the above entitled Chancery cause, and to all others interested, that this cause be referred to a Master Commissioner of this Court, with instructions to examine, state and settle the following accounts, to wit:
1st. An account of the real estate owned by the defendants, F. W. Pugh, Joseph N. Riddle, L. P. Branner, or either of them, its fee simple and annual rental value.
2d. An account of the liens against the same, and the order of their priorities.
3d. An account of what any party interested may require, or the Commissioner may deem of importance.

The parties to the above entitled cause, and all others interested therein, are hereby notified that I have fixed on SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8th, at my office in Harrisonburg, Va., as the time and place of taking the foregoing accounts, when and where they will attend and protect their respective interests.

Given under my hand as Commissioner in Chancery this 24th day of December, 1878.

JOHN E. ROLLER, P. G.
Commissioner in Chancery.

JAMES L. AVIS,
DRUGGIST AND PHARMACIST.

Machine Oils
FOR THRESHING MACHINES, SAW MILLS, Sewing Machines, and all kinds of Machinery, for sale at
JAMES L. AVIS' DRUG STORE.

Prepared Paints
Time, Labor and Money Saved.
THEY WILL COVER MORE SURFACE, ARE more durable, make more handsome finish, and when used on painted surfaces, they are not only satisfactory when painted with these Paints, but they will also protect the surface from decay and rot. These Paints with white Lead or other Paint as the property owner may select. They are used by everybody. Call and examine them before selecting your Paint. For sale only at
JAMES L. AVIS' DRUG STORE.
Nearly opposite Spotswood and Bevers Hotels.

LAMP GOODS.
HAND, STAND, BRACKET AND HANGING Lamps, Lanterns, Burners, Wicks, Chimneys, Globes, and everything in the Lamp Goods line. Also, Aladdin Security Oil and the best Non-Explosive Coal Oil. For sale at
JAMES L. AVIS' DRUG STORE.

CHOICE GROCERIES—BANK ROW AHEAD!
For Choice Groceries, go to Bank Row, for Old Reliable Grocery House.
JOHN S. LEWIS.

WOODENWARE—JUST CALL AND SEE ME before buying.
JOHN S. LEWIS.

QUEENSWARE—A SUPERIOR LOT AT BOT tom prices.
JOHN S. LEWIS.

New Advertisements.

HOLIDAY GOODS.

THE LATEST NOVELTIES.

JUST RECEIVED AT

H. E. WOLF'S,

A complete and handsome assortment of Useful Articles suitable for Presents, which will be sold at bottom prices, consisting of LADIES' SILK HANDKERCHIEFS, SILK AND LACE TIES, FANCY HOSIERY, COLLARS AND CUFFS.

Also, on hand a cheap and well selected stock of CLOAKS, FUR SKIRTS, SHAWLS; LADIES' GENTS' AND CHILDREN'S MERINO VESTS, CORSETS, GLOVES, &c.

DRESS GOODS IN ALL THE NEWEST STYLES—CHECKED FRINGES TO MATCH.

A FULL LINE OF BOOTS AND SHOES, RUBBERS AND ARTICLES.

Everything in my line will be offered at astonishingly low prices. Call and examine.

Patterns.
MRS. DEMOREST'S NEW AND BEAUTIFUL WINTER FASHIONS JUST OUT. Call and get catalogue. Their stock is all fresh and new, and will be sold at the lowest possible prices.

H. E. WOLF, SILENT DWELLING.

NEW WHOLESALE GROCERY!

IN PARTLOW BUILDING, MAIN STREET, HARRISONBURG, VA.

Are opening this week at the Partlow Building, Main Street, Harrisonburg, a new Wholesale Grocery Store. EVERY ARTICLE PERTAINING TO THE GROCERY TRADE IN STORE. CALL AND SEE TH M BEFORE PURCHASING.

Country Merchants specially invited to call and examine goods and prices.

DON'T FORGET YOUR OLD FRIENDS.

JUST HOME FROM THE EAST
With the Handsomest and Cheapest Stock of Everything in my Line Nice, New and Fresh.

Having just returned, I can't tell you this week all that you can find at my store; therefore you will please The handsomest stock of goods ever shown in the Valley of Virginia. All my Confections made up fresh to my own order. All the goods heretofore kept, with many New Articles and Novelties.

Get the best of **A. A. WISE,**

AT THE OLD STAND, MAIN STREET, HARRISONBURG, VA.

The Old Original Confectioner.

New Advertisements.

JOHN PAUL, PAUL & SHANDS,
ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW, HARRISONBURG, VA., will practice in the Courts of Rockingham and adjoining Counties, and in the United States Circuit Court at Harrisonburg. Office in the old Clerk's office, at the Court-house yard.

FERDINAND BAUMHAUER,
A PROFESSIONAL GARDENER OF LONG EXPERIENCE, offers his services to the public. This is the season for Trimming Orchards, Vineyards, &c., and he will give prompt attention to all work that he is satisfied he will be able to give entire satisfaction.

Orders left with Jonas A. Heller, East Market street, will receive prompt attention.

FOR THE HOLIDAYS.
P. TATUM & CO.,
Offer the finest and handsomest assortment of ST

OLD COMMONWEALTH

Harrisonburg, Va., : December 5, 1878

PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY BY
SMITH & DELANY.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:
Two Dollars a Year; \$1 for Six Months.
No paper sent out of Rockingham county, unless paid for in advance. The money must accompany the order for the paper. All subscriptions out of the county will be discontinued promptly at the expiration of the time paid for.

ADVERTISING RATES:
1 square (ten lines of type) one insertion, \$1.00
1 " each subsequent insertion, .50
1 " one year, 5.00
1 " six months, 3.00
YEARLY ADVERTISEMENTS \$10 for the first square and \$5.00 for each additional square per year.

PERSONAL. CHARGES \$1.00 a line per year. For five lines or less \$5 per year.
Business Notices 10 cents per line, each insertion.
Largely and vertically inserted on contract.
All advertising bills due in advance. Yearly advertisers discounting before the close of the year, will be charged transient rates.

LOCAL ADVERTISING charged at transient rates, and bills for same forwarded to principals in Chesapeake Bay promptly on first insertion.

LOCAL AFFAIRS.

Those who receive their bills from this office are expected to give them prompt attention. The old debts due us before the change in the firm, in May last, must be paid at least.

From and after January 1st, 1879, the COMMONWEALTH will not be sent to any person outside of Rockingham county unless paid for in advance. This notice is given in time, so that there may be no misunderstanding.

MAJ. CHRISTMAN'S LETTER ON SHORT HORN CATTLE.—We commend to the perusal of our readers the letter in this issue of Maj. Geo. Christman. Maj. C.'s letters upon stock are always of interest, as he understands the subject upon which he writes, having been engaged from early boyhood in handling stock upon the farm of his late father, Geo. H. Christman, Esq., deceased. No man in Rockingham has had finer stock of all kind than Maj. Christman's father, nor did any man take more pleasure in his herds than he. He kept a diary of his stock and a note book of all his transactions, carefully recording from whom he procured his cows, cattle, hogs, etc.; what their productions; the net increase of value; sales, amounts and to whom; comparative statements of the profits from various kinds of stock, and of all this valuable information having fallen into the hands of his son, Maj. Christman, added to his own experience of years, enables him to give reliable information upon this important industry, and makes his opinions of more than ordinary worth.

We expect to be favored with further essays upon stock and stock raising from his pen, and our readers will share with us in the pleasure of reliable information from a completely trustworthy source, upon a subject the importance of which to all of our people cannot be over-estimated. Maj. Christman will also doubtless soon furnish us some statistics of profits, derived from the extensive collection at his command, which will show the relative profits derived from the various kinds of improved stock. Our readers shall have the benefit of all the information with which Maj. C. may favor us upon these subjects.

ROCKINGHAM TAXES.—The County Treasurer states that up to Saturday last \$40,000 of the taxes of Rockingham county for 1878 were paid. This is over two fifths, which is a pretty good showing for hard times. More has been paid to December last this year than was paid last year. About \$9,000 has so far this year been paid in coupons. Notwithstanding the rush, yet the County Treasurer says he is quite well and ready to receive the balance of the taxes, and will give prompt attention to all calls.

DIED OF YELLOW FEVER.—Information has just been received of the death of Capt. Frank Boylan, which occurred near Vicksburg, Miss., from yellow fever, about the middle of September last. Capt. Boylan, during the war, resided in this place. He married here, and was a son-in-law of J. Gambill Sprinkel, Esq. He was about 48 years of age at time of his death. He was a civil engineer by profession, and has been living in the South for ten or twelve years.

We are in constant receipt of postal cards requesting back copies of this paper, of such and such dates. This may be flattering, but really if the writers would enclose stamps to pay the postage it would look more like business. To ask us to give them the paper and also pay the postage to send it, is just a little "cheeky."

Joseph M. Samuel, of Singer's Glen, in this county, left last week for Kansas, where he intends to settle permanently. Thus whilst those in authority dilly-dally over the financial condition of Virginia, many good men become disheartened and leave our borders to benefit other States with not half of our advantages.

Judge Farrar, better known perhaps as "Johnny Rob," delivered one of his humorous lectures in Staunton on Monday night last. His lecture was under the patronage of the Lecture Committee of the Y. M. C. A.

The Grand Lodge of Masons of Virginia will assemble in Richmond on Monday next, December 9th. Wm. Mas. James L. Avis, and Past Master Samuel M. Bowman, will attend from this place.

According to previous arrangement, the Sunday School Convention of the Virginia Conference of the Tennessee Synod of the Lutheran Church, met in New Market on Thursday last.

Clara Wildman and her dramatic troupe are on the road, and making another Valley campaign. They are advertised to be at Charlottesville, W. Va., during the holidays.

A new post-office is established at Willow Grove, Shenandoah county, Va., on the B. & O. R. R., with George Moore as postmaster.

Mayor Hyde killed the "boss" hogs this week. One weighed 400 pounds and the little one 370. Had to beat.

Hall's Hair Renewer is Nature's own remedy to restore gray or faded hair to its natural color and beauty.

Judge Harris left on Saturday for Washington to be present at the opening of Congress on Monday.

BREVITIES.

Five Sundays this month.

Trim your trees and vines.

You can send us that wood now.

How do you like the barber-pole cupola?

The Kemper farm is offered for sale again.

The wheat fields are covered with green.

Where will you spend Christmas this year?

Just three weeks from yesterday until Christmas.

Iron roofs are becoming fashionable here.

Good idea.

Our store windows are filling up with Christmas goods.

Thursday last was Thanksgiving day. Few seemed to know it.

Hon. John T. Harris is at his old quarters, Metropolitan Hotel, Washington.

If you own for this paper read the notice at the head of our first local column.

This is the season when sentimental maidens put chicken wish-bones over the door.

J. M. Kent has purchased M. M. Sibley's interest in the Valley Plaster Mill, we hear.

F. M. Stinespring, lately doing business at Singer's Glen, has commenced business at Dayton.

Your sign in the newspapers will heat all the fantastic figure-heads that can be invented. Try it.

Notwithstanding the tight times improvements still go on. Somebody must have some money, at least.

The irregularity with which the mails have recently reached this place makes their promptness refreshing.

The repainting of various buildings in town foreshadows the revival of a feeling for general improvement.

The Circuit Court for this County closed its Fall term on Saturday last, Nov. 30, after a session of thirty-four days.

Miss Mary Kelley is recovering from the attack of paralysis with which she was stricken several months ago.

The bodies of Wm. Lewis and the colored driver, who were drowned on Monday have not been recovered at this hour.

As the holiday season approaches the chicken-thieves more carefully note the places where pullets and turkeys roost.

P. B. Schlett, of Staunton, has just opened an establishment for the purchase of grain on East Market street, Billmeyer building.

The painting of Mrs. Gambill's new house is completed, and the repainting of Mr. Clem's handsome residence, on East Market street, will be completed this week.

Senator Paul, and Delegates Moffett and Harrison left for Richmond on Tuesday, to attend the session of the General Assembly, which convened yesterday, December 4th.

We want our readers who intend to buy Holiday goods for Christmas presents to consult the advertising columns of the COMMONWEALTH. We can tell you where to go, and you can save money by following our advice.

The ladies of the Lutheran and Reformed Congregations will give a dinner and oyster supper for the benefit of their churches, and also Christmas tree to the children of the Sunday school, at McGaheyville.

W. C. McAlister, contractor for the wood-work on the new M. E. Church, has up the timbers for the roof. The building will probably be under roof in ten days more.

PROCEEDINGS OF CIRCUIT COURT.—The last two weeks of the Circuit Court were taken up in the trial of the case of Jacob Barley vs. Adam M. Long vs. Samuel Barley, &c. This suit was brought to recover one year's rent for the Barley farm. The cause was tried before a jury and a verdict rendered for the defendant on the plea of eviction. This was the second trial of the cause. The result being the same each trial.

The following estates were committed to the sheriff: Estates of Elvira G. Martz, dec'd, A. C. Lincoln, dec'd, A. S. Rutherford, dec'd, and Christian Simmers, dec'd.

Oscar F. A. Moore qualified as executor of the estate of Thomas Moore, dec'd.

Thos. J. R. Keenan qualified as administrator of the estate of his wife, Mary E. Keenan, dec'd.

Court adjourned on Saturday morning last. Length of session thirty-four days.

The next term will commence on the 20th day of January, 1879.

The funeral of Capt. Peter Paul, who was drowned last week, as heretofore published in the COMMONWEALTH, took place Friday last at Ottobine church, Rev. Mr. Rosebro, of Mossey Creek Presbyterian church, and Rev. Mr. Fries, of the United Brethren church at Dayton, officiating. It was largely attended, and the sympathies of the entire community are with the bereaved family in this unexpected and sad affliction. Capt. Paul was 66 years of age, at the time of his death. As no one saw the accident, no particulars of the sad event can be given. He was found by his son, Abram Paul, a mile or more below the spot at which he attempted to ford the river. Having a caution above the right eye, it is supposed his horse fell with him in the river precipitating him headlong into the water. Striking his head against some object he was probably stunned, and the current being very swift he was borne rapidly down the stream in an unconscious condition.

A GOOD DINNER.—The ladies of the Baptist church in Harrisonburg propose to give a first-class dinner, at forty cents, including a plate of oysters, in the room recently occupied by G. Filbert, next door to J. L. Avis (drug store), Monday, December 16, 1878, (court day), and cordially invite all who are willing to help in a good cause to partake of refreshments with them. At night an oyster supper will be given at 7 o'clock. The ladies of the town are especially invited to attend the First Grand Apron Sale of the season. We have a large and fresh stock of all kinds.

COMMITTEE.
Mr. Hunter has given several interesting temperance lectures in this place during the past week. He has traveled over about twenty-five States delivering free temperance lectures, we learn. Doubtless he struck Harrisonburg at a bad time. It is so near the holidays that working up a temperance revival just now would require an effort greater than any human is capable of. We wish him success, but can't give any guarantee.

STANTON VINDICTOR. 29th: Mr. W. H. Fitz, of Moffett's creek, in this county, has invented an axe which is moveable on the handle and which may also be used as a chisel. He sent the papers on to Washington, yesterday, for a patent.

CORRESPONDENCE.

DOR HILL, Nov. 27, 1878.

DEAR COMMONWEALTH.—It has been a long time since any letter was sent to you for publication from this place. But owing to exciting contest just closed there was no room for correspondence, after noticing the speeches and other election news. Perhaps other correspondents have taken the same view as I have done, or else no longer wield the pen to help make the best paper in the Valley still better. The "Northwest Orb" is no longer visible through the columns of the COMMONWEALTH, and I presume it is so situated in its orbit that it shines for others. "L." is also silent. What can it mean? Perhaps the contributors have been ruled out. But to the point. News is scarce in this county. We had no candidates, and therefore, had a quiet time. None have as yet announced themselves candidates for the spring elections, but some are getting their electioneering powder dry.

The Text-book Committee of this county, recommended some few changes in the books used heretofore. Harvey's Grammars were set aside and Reed and Kellogg's adopted. Also Guyot's Geographies, and Maury's substituted. Holmes' History was also adopted. McGuffey's Readers, Davis' Mathematics and the Spencerian System of Penmanship were re-adopted.

Not as many schools are in operation this year as last year, owing to the scarcity of the funds. There are three grades of certificates, receiving fourteen, sixteen and eighteen dollars respectively.

Judge McLaughlin rendered a somewhat peculiar but important decision at the last term of the Circuit Court, in regard to the Highland county Railroad subscriptions to the W. C. & St. L. Railroad Company. He stopped all further proceedings by saying that the case would be continued until the railroad was finished as per contract.

Large numbers of cattle are still being driven from our county. Some of the finest stock is raised here, but prices are very low at present, and money is extremely scarce, owing to the failure of two years ago among cattle men.

Game is exceedingly plenty this year. Along the South Fork of the Potomac in Pendleton county, there have been twenty-one bears killed up to this time. Deer are also plentiful, but have not been killed off as rapidly as the bears. When you ask an old hunter how fat his bear was he will tell you, "He cut 'bout an inch," meaning the fat all over the bear was an inch thick.

Hoping to write more frequently, I am, Yours truly,

CHURCH.

ANOTHER SAD CASE OF DROWNING.—William M. Lewis, brother of ex-Senator John F. Lewis, with a colored man, who was driving the carriage, and two horses, were drowned on Monday morning last, 3d inst., whilst attempting to cross Shenandoah River, at Lynwood, the residence of ex-Senator Lewis. The river was pretty high at the time, and it is supposed the ford had been washed away some by the recent high waters. The carriage was upset in the river and the occupants drowned. Ex-Senator Lewis intended going to Washington on Monday morning had crossed the river in a boat, intending to take the carriage on this side of the river; had he attempted to cross in the carriage he would doubtless have shared the fate of those drowned. The whole party was en route to this place.

William Lewis had many warm friends in this place, being noted and esteemed for his urbanity and gentleness of disposition, all of whom are deeply pained at this sad ending of his life. He was about forty years of age, and the son of the late General Samuel H. Lewis. The negro man who was drowned was a former slave of Hon. John F. Lewis, who has remained at the old homestead and was a faithful and reliable servant.

The drowning of Capt. Peter Paul, in the western part of the county, announced in these columns last week, followed so soon by a sad repetition as narrated above, in the eastern side of the county, shows there is an urgent necessity either to more bridges or substantial ferry boats, the latter of which is perhaps the best for our streams, as bridges have proved to be unreliable when the waters are high, and a matter of heavy expense to replace, the frequency of which has become a serious tax. But safety to human life is beyond price, and some secure means of transit should be made.

Robt. Bros., are receiving a carload of West's Extra No. 1 kerosene oil and invite the attention of town and country merchants, as it will be sold at Baltimore prices.

Nothing Short of Unmistakable Benefits. Conferred upon tens of thousands of sufferers could originate and maintain the reputation which AYER'S SARSAPARILLA enjoys. It is a compound of the best vegetable alteratives, with the iodides of Potassium and Iron, and is the most effectual of all remedies for scrofulous, mercurial, or blood disorders. Uniformly successful and certain in its remedial effects, it produces rapid and complete cures of Scrofula, Sores, Blisters, Humors, Pimples, Eruptions, Skin Diseases and all disorders arising from impurity of the blood. By its invigorating effects it always relieves and often cures Liver Complaints, Female Weaknesses and Irregularities, and is a potent restorer of vitality. For purifying the blood it has no equal. It tones up the system, restores and preserves the health, and imparts vigor and energy. For forty years it has been in extensive use, and is today the most available medicine for the suffering sick, anywhere.

FOR SALE BY ALL DEALERS. (4)

Persons wanting new and fresh Groceries for the winter, will always find it to their interest to call at Robt. Bros., in Partlow Building.

An article in the December No. of the *Atlantic Monthly*, entitled "Sheridan at Winchester," and written by a Major on Sheridan's staff, makes the following confession of the devastation wrought by that infamous man in his Valley campaign. The writer says, "Nobody who was one of that army will ever forget the scenes of our retreat. By day the smoke obscured the sun; by night a lurid light reflected the glare of burning barns and stacks of grain and hay for twice twenty-four hours." Orders had come from Washington to destroy all the mills, forage, and provisions, and to retreat, leaving behind a country incapable of supporting an army.

The National Grange of Grangers finished its long and tedious session in this city on Saturday last. The body adjourned to meet next year in Canandaigua, N. Y.—*Richmond Star.*

Robt. Bros., in Partlow Building, can offer special inducements in tea and coffee, carrying the largest stock in town.

The State Debt.

To the People of the State of Virginia:

The undersigned, citizens of the State of Virginia, have organized themselves into a society, the object of which is to preserve the credit of the State; and towards the accomplishment of this object they cordially invite the co-operation of every citizen of Virginia.

For some time past it has been the constant practice of a part of the press of the State and of some individuals to attempt to make the people of the State believe that the public debt is so large that interest upon it cannot be paid without loading the people with burdens greater than they can bear. This course is pursued, notwithstanding the fact that every dollar of the money which the State owes was spent in erecting and creating the public improvements, such as railroads, canals, universities, and asylums, which we daily use in the transaction of the business affairs of our lives, and without which the State would be little better than an improved wilderness. This being the fact, the assertion that we cannot pay the interest upon our public debt without imposing great burdens upon ourselves, even if true, would not exonerate us from the obligation to perform our duty in paying our creditors the money we have borrowed from them and justly owe to them.

But the amount of the public debt, and the increase of taxation necessary to paying full interest upon it, have both been greatly exaggerated to you. The entire amount of the public debt which bears interest is \$29,350,826.38, upon which there is unpaid interest due amounting to \$4,189,141.33, (see the Acts of Assembly for 1877-'9, page 280, Report of Second Auditor for September 30, 1877.) All the balance of what has been represented to be part of the public debt is bonds of the State owned by herself, in her sinking and literary funds, and being her own bonds, owned by herself, are, therefore, due by herself to herself, and therefore not due at all.

If you leave the expenses of conducting your State government, what they now are, and maintain your public schools upon their present footing, yet it will require you to increase your taxes but twenty cents on the hundred dollars' worth of property to pay your expenses of government, to maintain your public schools to pay to your creditors full interest upon what you justly owe them, and to provide a sinking fund which will in a few years extinguish the entire debt. People of Virginia, think of that.

Remember that the taxes now levied for county purposes in most counties equal the State taxes, and in many cities and counties are greater, so that where a man now pays ten dollars of State taxes, his whole tax, county and State, amounts to twenty dollars; and with the necessary increase will then amount to only twenty-four dollars; or, in other words, taxes will be increased so that the man who now pays ten dollars, county and State taxes, will then have to pay only one dollar more, and the man who now pays five dollars, county and State taxes, will then pay fifty cents more. This slight increase is necessary in order that the good name and fame of our State may be preserved; that we may stand before the world a high and honorable people rather than one with a tarnished credit; that we may enjoy the material blessings of a people in full credit without credit.

If a State is faithless to her obligations, her loss of credit has a disastrous influence upon the pecuniary interest of every citizen of the State. It diminishes and even destroys the price of the lands. It increases the price of everything which every man has to buy.

The merchants of that State, when they go to New York or Baltimore to buy goods, coming from a repudiating State, are given no credit on account of their industry, honesty, or enterprise, and can only buy for cash; consequently, none but persons with capital in money can do business, and those whose capital consists in character and energy are excluded. No money can be borrowed except upon the most exorbitant rates of interest, if at all. Capital goes from such a society to one organized on sounder principles, and energy, industry, and thrift all seek new fields for their exercise. Every business interest in that State suffers from it—the laborer and the farmer, the mechanic and the merchant, the doctor and the lawyer.

As a practical means of consolidating and organizing all those citizens of the State who are in favor of maintaining the public credit, we recommend that a society, similar to the one we have formed, be organized in each county, city and town, and that an effort be made to enroll in such society every person in the county, city, or town, who desires to see the public credit preserved. We commend also that this society, formed to select some persons, fitted by their talents, his character, and his courage, to represent his people in the Legislature; and in November, 1879, when the next Legislature will be elected, that it give whatever influence it can command towards the election of that person. We have the greatest confidence that if this plan is pursued energetically all over the State, the next Legislature will be composed of members in favor of meeting our obligations.

A thorough discussion and an exhaustive canvass on the hustings, through the press, and by printed statements and arguments, are necessary for the proper elucidation and understanding of the whole subject of the State debt and preservation of the public credit.

Such measures will entail considerable expense. It has been suggested to us that the creditors of the State ought to contribute some share of all such expenses, being of opinion that it is due to ourselves that we should take the entire burden and expense of this controversy upon ourselves, and not permit any assistance from any extraneous source—the people of Virginia being the sole and only guardians of her credit and her honor.

We recommend that as fast as a county society is formed it put itself into communication with the central society at Richmond. Communications addressed to the secretary will receive immediate attention. It is desired to make this society as large as possible. Persons desiring to become members will please send their names to the secretary. The press throughout the State are requested to publish this address.

Robert Beverly, President.
H. Dulany, Randolph Harrison, Robert V. Hughes, Geo. W. Palmer, Jas. A. Walker, F. M. Whittle, Wm. C. Wickham, Jos. Wilmer, T. H. Carter, J. E. Edwards, Wm. H. Sonthall, Thos. W. Wood, S. G. White, J. H. Chamberlayne, Moses D. Hoge, J. F. White, S. Gordon, J. A. Sedden, J. W. McGehee, J. B. Jeter, Chas. Bruce, Joshua Perkins, S. S. Bradford, J. L. M. Curry, Alexander Rives, A. Broadbent, W. W. Gilmer, Charles H. Read, Wm. Keen, T. C. McGee, H. M. Jackson, J. B. Naylor, M. D. G. A. Hughart, W. R. Cooke, J. P. Alexander, J. M. White, Benj. E. Smith, Jr.

The following are the officers of the Association:
Robert Beverly, President.
A. H. Drewry, Vice-President.
A. H. Drewry, Joseph Wilmer, Williams C. Wickham, W. R. Cooke, Robert V. Hughes, Charles Bruce, Alexander Rives, Randolph Harrison, George W. Palmer, William Keen, R. H. Dulany, executive committee.
William L. Royall, Secretary.

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William L. Royall, Secretary.

FARMVILLE, Nov. 23, 1878.

Editors Dispatch. The communication below was prepared for publication several days ago, but I was called away on business, and on my return to-day I find in your paper of Friday reference to suggestions made by General Williams of Frederick, of some what similar import. I am glad that it has so happened that men in different parts of the State were at the same time arriving at conclusions so similar in regard to the State debt. As my proposition varies in some important particulars from the other, I have thought it would be perhaps better to forward it to you, notwithstanding it has in some respects been anticipated.

Your obedient servant,
ROBERT T. HUBARD.

Proposition for the Consolidation and Reduction of the Virginia State Debt.

Let the General Assembly this winter pass an act for the consolidation of the entire indebtedness of Virginia into one single class of debt bearing four per cent. interest, and let the act, among other things, provide—

First. That every county and city treasurer in the State and the State Treasurer shall, on and after July 1, 1879, receive subscriptions to the new loan, and their official bonds to embrace all moneys so received by them.

Second. That any bonds or other evidences of debt of the State (except for West Virginia's third, or for past-due interest on the State debt) may be received in payment of subscriptions at the following valuations: Old State bonds not funded at fifty cents in the dollar if six per cent., or at forty-two cents in the dollar if five per cent. bonds; all funded bonds, whether coupon or registered, tax-receivable or not, at seventy-five cents in the dollar if six per cent., or at sixty-two and one-half per cent. if five per cent. bonds. And the Treasurer of the State shall be authorized and required, with moneys subscribed to the new loan, to purchase any of the outstanding bonds of the State in this section referred to at their market value, provided the prices paid shall in no case exceed the valuation herein fixed for them respectively when received in payment of subscriptions to the new loan.

Third. The new bonds shall be coupon bonds, or registered bonds convertible into coupon bonds at the holder's option. Shall be non-taxable, bear four per cent. interest, and the interest-coupons shall be receivable in payment of State taxes (but no other demands or dues) to an amount equal to fifty per cent. of the State taxes at the time payable by the holder. The coupons shall, as soon as received into the State Treasury, be cancelled or destroyed. The bonds shall be in denominations of \$20, \$50, \$100, \$500, and \$1,000. The bonds to run until redeemed by a sinking fund of one-half of one per cent.

Fourth. To each person paying his subscription in old unfunded bonds there shall be issued a certificate that the State, without being otherwise liable, will pay to the holder such proportion of any moneys received hereafter from West Virginia, in discharge of that State's liability for the old debt of Virginia, as shall be just.

Fifth. That all evidences of State debt now held by the sinking fund and the literary fund shall be cancelled, and in lieu of the latter a school annuity to be created equal to four per cent. interest on such bonds of the new loan as the literary fund would be otherwise entitled to.

Sixth. That all past due interest on the two-thirds of the debt recognized by Virginia, on or before the 1st day of July, 1879, is to be paid at the Treasury in Virginia Treasury notes, in denominations of from \$5 to \$100, and in four series, redeemable in 1805, 1800, 1805 and 1900, or at the pleasure of the General Assembly.

Seventh. It shall be the duty of the General Assembly, at each biennial session, to levy such taxes as shall be requisite to defray the expenses of government, support the public schools, and leave a surplus equal to 5 per cent. of the consolidated State debt—4 per cent. for interest, 1 per cent. for a sinking fund, and 1 per cent. for a temporary sinking fund to retire the Treasury notes.

Eighth. The Virginia four-per-cent. bonds authorized by this act shall be recognized by the courts of the Commonwealth as the legal investment fund for all fiduciaries in this State having moneys under their control, and all such investments made by them, with or without an order of court, shall be valid.

Ninth. The act to take effect from the 1st day of July, 1879, if the new loan shall be approved by the people at the election to be held on the fourth Thursday in May, 1879, at which election the ballot shall be printed or written "For readjustment" or "Against readjustment."

The Public Debt.

We present to-day the views of Mr. R. T. Hubbard, of Farmville, on the subject of the public debt. Mr. Hubbard's plan of settlement of the public debt differs a little in the matter of interest from that proposed by General Williams, of Frederick, in the paper published by us a few days since. We feel gratified at these propositions coming from prominent gentlemen living so far apart in the State, and properly considered as representative men in communities of great respectability and influence.

Indeed, the signs in many quarters of the State prove that the questions of the public debt and the public credit are absorbing the public mind. The people of Virginia see the terrible consequences of a suspended public debt and a suspended public credit. They see that amongst them are an impaired private credit along with impaired business and general discontent. The prayer of the whole Commonwealth now is for peace—peace between the Commonwealth and her creditors, and peace with the people. This now would do all a heaven-desecrated blessing.

It is a time most favorable for the public creditor, and if he should fail to seize upon it with alacrity he will place his claims in peril, by prolonging the period of danger in putting a powerful argument in the hands of those who desire to see nothing done that may assist in reviving the honor of the State and restoring that order, peace, and prosperity which would be fatal to their miserable political schemes.

The Legislature of Virginia meets on Wednesday the 4th—to-day week. If we are right in our impression of the general desire of the people, we cannot suppose that the representatives of the people will come to work altogether indisposed to co-operate in accomplishing what is so earnestly desired by all. Even the Richmond *Whig* has intimated its willingness to mark this year by relaxing the rigors of its anti-tax hostility to the extent of a small increase of taxation for the public good. Certainly the encouragement is strong when there are signs of relaxation in that quarter.

The period is favorable. There is to be, we think, a general settlement of the financial system and the establishment credit and solvency of money and of the paper medium upon a firmer basis than ever at any former time in this country. At such a time shall we not put Virginia in a position that will rescue her from the imputation of impairing the reputation of the nation by continuing in a state of discredit?

This we should do by all means. Were Virginia to contract with her creditors to convert her debt into four-per-cent. bonds assuredly that would be no shame to her under the circumstances, for the Federal Government debt is rapidly being converted into four-per-cent. bonds. That interest will become in a short time probably the regular interest of the nation, and we consider the clause in Mr. Hubbard's plan, which directs the courts, administrators, and fiduciaries generally to invest moneys in their custody in four-per-cent. bonds of the State, as very wise.

If the Legislature about to assemble will settle the debt of the State it will establish its claim to be considered one of the most memorable, as well as one of the most beneficent, bodies that ever met in Virginia.—*Richmond Dispatch.*

The Lee Mausoleum at Lexington.

The corner-stone of the Lee mausoleum was laid at Lexington on the 28th instant with interesting and impressive ceremonies. The remains of Gen. Lee will rest in the vault of the mausoleum. The Valentine recumbent figure of Lee, of pure white marble, will rest in the chamber above the vault, which communicates with the floor of the chapel built by General Lee when president of Washington College. Notwithstanding the bad weather of the last few days, and high water, a large number of persons assembled.

Professor J. F. White, after welcoming the audience to a participation in the ceremonies, called upon Rev. Dr. Pendleton, who served as chief of the artillery under Lee, to open the services with prayer. Colonel White then, as chairman of the Lee Memorial Association, delivered a brief address, reporting the progress of their work. Twenty-two thousand dollars had been received in all, seventeen thousand spent, five thousand on hand, and five thousand were yet necessary to the completion of the work.

Prof. White then introduced Senator R. B. Withers, who, in a happy speech of thirty minutes, eulogized in glowing terms the character of the great chief, whose example he followed as a Christian and soldier he held up for imitation by the generations to follow. Col. Withers' speech was loudly applauded, and produced a marked impression.

Gen. Johnston placed in the cavity of the corner-stone the records of the Lee Memorial Association, a letter of General Washington to the Board of Washington College, donating \$50,000, dated June 17, 1778; Gen. Lee's letter accepting the presidency, dated August 25, 1865, with a number of other documents.

OLD COMMONWEALTH.

THURSDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 12, 1878.

SUPPLEMENT.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

FIRST DAY.

WEDNESDAY, Dec. 4, 1878.

SENATE.

The Senate of Virginia met at 12:10 P. M., and was called to order by Senator W. D. Quesenberry, president *pro tempore*. Prayer by Rev. T. G. Dashiell, D. D.

A QUORUM PRESENT.

The following Senators responded to their names: Messrs. Betts, Bland, Bliss, Brooke, Chiles, Daniel, Elliott, Falkerson, Goode, Grimsley, Hurt, Halifax, Hurt of Pittsylvania, Johnson, Koiner, Lee, Massey, Moulton, Murray, Norton, Nunn, Paul, Phlegar, Powell, Quesenberry, Sherrard, Sinclair, Slomp, Smith, Tanner, Tyler, Ward, Wood, and Wortham—33.

NOT ANSWERING.

to their names: Messrs. Dickinson, Gayle, Griffin, Hairston, Hinton, Marshall, Nash, Spitzer, Stevens, and Walston.

READY FOR BUSINESS.

A message from the House by Mr. Graves was received, announcing that the House of Delegates was organized and ready for business.

Mr. Coghill, from the House of Delegates, reported that that body had appointed a joint committee of three on the part of the House and two on the part of the Senate to wait upon the Governor and inform him of the organization of the General Assembly.

The resolution was taken up and agreed to, and the Chair appointed Messrs. Lee and Phlegar.

Mr. Lee, from the committee appointed to wait upon the Governor, reported that they had performed that duty, and that the Governor would communicate in writing to the General Assembly. Subsequently the message was sent in to the Chair.

The Chair handed the message and documents to the Clerk, and he proceeded to read the message.

Mr. Paul: Mr. President, I move [the Clerk had read half a dozen lines] that the further reading of the message be dispensed with. Agreed to.

The message was on motion laid upon the table and ordered to be printed.

Mr. Johnson, of Richmond, presented the following resolutions:

Whereas it has been reported to the Senate by one of the Senators thereof, on his official responsibility, that certain persons held for trial under the laws of this Commonwealth, by her authority, charged with the murder of one of her citizens, on her soil, within her jurisdiction, against her statutes, her peace and dignity, have been taken from the custody of her proper officers by virtue of the mandate of the Judge of the District Court of the United States for the Western District of Virginia; and that the said Federal judge proposes and is now proceeding, in a judicial proceeding conducted by him, to try said persons in said Federal court for said crimes against the State laws; which proceeding will be to that extent an enforcement of the police regulations and control of the domestic affairs of the State by the Federal authority; therefore

Resolved, That his Excellency the Governor is hereby requested to communicate to the Senate as speedily as possible all the information he has in the premises.

Mr. Hurt, of Pittsylvania, said he had written to the judge of the court in which the parties had been convicted for information on the subject, and had designed bringing the matter to the attention of the Senate himself, but was glad he had been forestalled by his friend from Richmond.

The resolution was agreed to.

RESOLUTIONS, BILLS, &c., PRESENTED.

By Mr. Massey: A bill prescribing the manner in which public free school funds shall be collected, and requiring them to be paid to the credit of the public free school fund, and used only for public free school purposes. Referred.

By Mr. Paul: A resolution for copies of the Code of 1873 and Acts of Assembly, to be returned at end of session.

By same: Petition of Isaac N. Bonts, of Rockingham, for relief. Referred. Adjourned.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

The House was called to order promptly at 12 o'clock by Speaker Allen. Prayer by Rev. Dr. Hoge.

Roll called and nearly all the members responded.

COMMITTEE TO WAIT ON GOVERNOR.

Mr. Coghill offered a resolution that a committee of three on the part of the House and two on the part of the Senate be appointed to wait upon the Governor and inform him that the General Assembly is in session and ready to receive any communication he may have to make. Adopted.

FROM THE GOVERNOR—CONGRATULATIONS.

Mr. Coghill, from the committee appointed to wait upon the Governor, reported that they had discharged that duty; that the Governor congratulated the Legislature upon re-assembling, and would communicate with them in writing.

A few minutes later the Sergeant-at-Arms delivered to the Speaker the message of the Governor. Clerk Bigger read it.

Ordered, on motion of Mr. Popham, that 1,500 copies be printed.

Mr. Hiner presented a preamble setting forth that "whereas grave doubts exist," &c., that, the Senate concurring, the General Assembly adjourn *sine die* to-morrow. Rejected.

Adjourned to meet at 12 o'clock Thursday.

SECOND DAY.

THURSDAY, Dec. 5, 1878.

SENATE.

Senator W. D. Quesenberry, president *pro tempore*, in the chair. Prayer by Rev. T. G. Dashiell, D. D.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION.

Mr. Hart of Pittsylvania presented a joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution, so as to abolish the office of county judge, substituting therefor the old magistrates' court; also, to abolish the office of county superintendent of schools. Referred to the Committee for Courts of Justice. Adjourned.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

The Speaker in the chair. Prayer by Rev. Dr. Hoge.

By Mr. Henkel: A bill to authorize the sale of certain church property belonging to the vestrymen of the Andrew Protestant Episcopal church, Bedford parish, county of Shenandoah to make a valid title to the same, and to re-invest the proceeds of the sale.

By Mr. Moffett: A bill for the relief of the sureties of John Huddleston, late collector of Central township, of the county of Rockingham.

By Mr. Barbour:

Resolved, That the Committee on Finance inquire into the expediency of authorizing the issue of tax receivable certificates of indebtedness in proper annual payments for the arrears due the literary fund and the school fund, and the distribution of the same among the school boards entitled thereto, with authority to sell them, when due, to tax-payers within the district of the school board holding such certificates at a price in no event less than sixty cents on every dollar of the face value of such certificates.

The House (at 12:35) adjourned until 12 o'clock Friday.

THIRD DAY.

FRIDAY, Dec. 6, 1878.

SENATE.

Mr. Quesenberry in the chair. Prayer by Rev. T. G. Dashiell, D. D.

By Mr. Johnson: A joint resolution providing for a special committee of five on the part of the Senate and seven on the part of the House, who shall consider and report the mode and measure of redress under the Constitution the United States for the exercise of authority by Judge Rives in assuming to try persons charged with crime under the laws of Virginia, if they shall find that he has no such authority to exercise such jurisdiction under the Constitution and laws of the United States. Adopted.

PASSED.

Senate bill (introduced by Mr. Paul this morning) to authorize the trustees of Andrew Chapel congregation, of Harrisonburg, to execute a deed of trust upon the property. Adjourned.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

Speaker Allen in the chair. Prayer by Rev. Dr. Hoge.

PRESENTED AND REFERRED.

By Mr. Coghill:

Resolved, That the Committee for Courts of Justice be instructed to inquire into the expediency of purchasing for the use of the officers of the courts, judges, and magistrates of the State the Criminal Procedure, "indexed and annotated," as published by J. E. Goode, to ascertain the number of copies proper to be purchased and the

cost thereof, and report the facts with proper bill.

By Mr. Allen: A bill to provide that in case of eviction of part of leased premises such eviction shall not work a suspension of the whole rent.

By Mr. Davis: A bill to extend the jurisdiction of judges of county courts in respect to injunctions.

By Mr. Bernard: A bill to authorize courts, or judges thereof in vacation, or justices of the peace, to order sales of personal property seized under writs of *fieri facias*, or under distress-warrants, in cases where such property is expensive to keep or perishable.

SCHOOL TAXES.

On motion of Mr. Shelburne, the Committee for Courts of Justice was instructed to inquire into the propriety of allowing counties to levy, collect and disburse all school taxes.

DOGS AS PROPERTY.

On motion of Mr. Hunter, a bill (passed at the last session of this body, but which failed in the Senate) permitting dogs to be listed for taxation, thereby to be some personal property, was placed on the calendar.

REGISTER OF COUPONS.

A resolution offered by Mr. Moffett, inquiring into the expediency of keeping a register of coupons received for taxes, was adopted.

CIRCUIT JUDGES.

The House agreed to the Senate amendment in relation to election of circuit judges. The 17th is the day agreed upon by the houses.

At 12:40 the House ended its arduous labors and adjourned to meet at 12 o'clock Saturday.

FOURTH DAY.

SATURDAY, December 7, 1878.

SENATE.

Senator Quesenberry in the chair. Prayer by Rev. T. G. Dashiell, D. D. of St. Mark's church.

PRESENTED AND REFERRED.

By Mr. Massey: A bill to provide for taking the sense of the qualified voters of the State on the question of holding a constitutional convention, &c.

By Mr. Paul: A bill authorizing a lien on all property kept by the keeper of a livery-stable, or of a house of private entertainment, to secure the payment of all charges due for keeping the same.

By Mr. Hurt of Pittsylvania: A resolution as to expediency of providing by law that the school-fund of the several counties, instead of being paid into the treasury for distribution. The resolution was first prepared so as to instruct the committee to bring in such a bill, but it was afterwards amended so as to authorize the committee to inquire into the expediency of such a law.

The Senate then went into a discussion as to the legality or constitutionality of the present session, and without a conclusion of the subject, adjourned.

HOUSE OF DELEGATES.

Speaker Allen in the chair. Prayer by Rev. Dr. Hoge.

By Mr. Kyle:

Resolved, That the Committee on Schools and Colleges inquire into the propriety of abolishing county superintendents of schools.

By Mr. Lovell: A bill relating to the collection of printers' fees in legal cases.

By Mr. Walsh: A bill to require county and corporation treasurers to furnish to registrars lists of all persons who have paid the capitation-tax for the preceding year, and to require the registrars to furnish such lists to the judges of elections at or before the opening of the polls at each election-precinct.

By Dr. Moffett:

Resolved, That the Committee on Finance be requested to inquire into the propriety and practicability of requiring all taxes derived from the sale of alcoholic and malt liquors to be paid to the State in lawful money, and appropriated to the public free schools, or so much thereof as may be necessary to secure the efficiency of the free-school system.

After further discussion of various subjects the House at 1:40 adjourned.

FOR SICK OR NERVOUS HEADACHE, colic, biliousness, indigestion, and to ward off malarial fevers "Dr. Swayne's Tar and Sarsaparilla Pills" are very effective. They act gently, without any gripping or unpleasant sensation whatsoever, leaving no bad effects, as is the case with blue mass or calomel. Prepared only by Dr. Swayne & Son, Philadelphia, and sold at 25 cents a box by all leading druggists in Harrisonburg.

WINDOW Glass, Putty, White Lead and Linseed Oil at SHUE'S Drug Store.

Beginning the Movement for Grant.

Our esteemed contemporary, the *N. Y. Times*, yesterday printed a special telegram from Boston, of which the following is a part:

"Boston, Dec. 3.—The fact that a movement is on foot to give General Grant a series of brilliant receptions in Eastern cities, on his return from Europe, is just made public, though it was intended to keep it from the public for a while longer, until arrangements were more thoroughly perfected. He will arrive by the American line at Philadelphia, and, if the present programme is carried out, after an informal welcome there, will come direct to Boston, to attend the first of the series of receptions. Every effort is making to keep the political element in the background, and to give the reception an entirely non-political appearance. To this end efforts are making to interest leading and foremost citizens, without regard to party, in each city in the movement."

We are glad to see that the movement for Gen. Grant is to take the form in the beginning, of a series of brilliant entertainments. They will attract attention. They will set the people to thinking.

These entertainments may be brilliant from their costliness; from the display of wealth and of shoddy; but they will not be brilliant with the constitutional principles and traditions which are of more importance than rustling silks and precious stones.

It is rumored that the Marquis of Lorne and the Princess Louise are to be invited to one of the Grant entertainments, and that they will probably attend. This will be fitting. The Vice-Royal Government of the Dominion must be in full sympathy with the approach toward personal rule and monarchical principles in this country which would be shadowed forth by the re-election of Gen. Grant.

Go on with your banqueting, Grant men of Boston—Grant men everywhere! Your style may prove less acceptable to the plain people who cast a majority of the votes than you imagine. We do not think any man can be made President in that way—least of all Grant.—*N. Y. Sun*.

Financial and Commercial.

FINANCIAL.

MONDAY, December 9, 1878.

In New York, Monday, gold ruled 100/100 1/4, with sales principally at the inside figure. The Secretary of the Treasury on Monday made another call for \$5,000,000 of the 5-20's of 1865 for redemption, from the proceeds of the sale of 4 per cents. Virginia Consols 54 1/2 @ 54 1/4.

COMMERCIAL.

BALTIMORE, Monday, Dec. 9, 1878.

Breadstuff—The Flour market shows no new feat ure, and is still reported dull and heavy. Buckwheat flour \$2.25 per 100 lbs. Southern wheat market dull with lower price—2 to 3 cents—\$1.07 being the top of the market for best samples. For corn the market is active and firm, with good demand, principally for shipment, with white a shade higher in price—44, 45 1/2, 46 cents. Good dry yellow, 45, 45 1/2, 46 1/2. Rye—no change, 55 @ 58 cts. Sales of White Western Oats at 31 cents, with a slight demand.

CATTLE MARKETS.

BALTIMORE, December 9, 1878.

BEEF CATTLE.—The market was generally dull, not as active even as last week, and prices 1/2 c off for tops and in some cases nearly 1 c on other grades. There was a fair number of good cattle on the market some of the tops being better than those of last week, but there was a large number of common ones, middle grades being scarce. We quote prices at 2.50 @ 3.50 per 100 lbs, a fair number selling at the former figure, and but few at the latter.

MILK COWS.—The supply is fair and trade in all kinds exceedingly dull. We quote prices at 20 @ 25.00 per head, as to quality.

Prices this week for Beef Cattle ranged as follows: Best Heaves.....\$4.00 a 5.00 Generally rated first quality..... 3.75 a 4.50 Medium or good fair quality..... 3.25 a 3.87 Ordinary thin Steers, Oxen and Cows..... 2.50 a 3.00 Extreme range of Prices..... 2.50 a 2.00 Most of the sales were from..... 3.25 a 4.12 Total receipts for the week 3210 head against 1561 last week, and 3263 head same time last year. Total sales for the week 2402 head against 1090 last week, and 2105 head same time last year.

SWINE.—There has been a fair increase in the receipts since last week, and some slight improvement in the quality. Prices show also an actual advance of nearly 1/2 c since last week. We quote best grades at 4 1/2 @ 4 3/4 cents, and a few selections at 4 1/2 cents per lb net, while fat ends, rough sows and big stags sell at 3 1/2 @ 4 cents. The market has not been especially active, only a fair trade being observable. Receipts this week 7330 head against 5274 last week and 13,118 head same time last year.

SHEEP AND LAMBS.—Trade was very active to-day but only for a short time, as the light receipts were all sold shortly after arrival. Prices show an advance of 1/2 c. The quality was same as that of last week.—We quote fair to good sheep at 3 1/2 @ 4 cents, and best at 4 1/2 @ 5 cents per lb. Lambs at 4 1/2 @ 5 cents per lb gross. Receipts this week 1000 head against 1127 last week, and 2212 head same time last year.

NEWS & AGRICULTURAL

Reading.

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